

Matthew

Who was Matthew

Matthew

Introduction

The purpose for this study is because I would like to talk a little bit about Matthew . I not going to speak about his book which he wrote though I might state a few verses from that book. Matthew name means gift of God. And his book is all about that gift .Who was Matthew? What did he do before his coming to Christ Jesus? What did he do when he found Jesus Christ or better said what did he do when Christ found him? And What are we called to do with this Jesus Christ? This is what I want to talk about.

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Chapter 1 Who was Matthew before He Came to Christ Jesus

Matthew might of been brother to a other apostle named James son of Alphaeus . They both are called son of Alphaeus. ([Mt 10:3](#)) Philip, and Bartholomew; Thomas, and Matthew the publican; James the son of Alphaeus, and Lebbaeus, whose surname was Thaddaeus;

([Mr 3:18](#)) And Andrew, and Philip, and Bartholomew, and Matthew, and Thomas, and James the son of Alphaeus, and Thaddaeus, and Simon the Canaanite,

[Mr 2:14](#) And as he passed by, he saw Levi the son of Alphaeus sitting at the receipt of custom, and said unto him, Follow me. And he arose and followed him.

(Levi is a other name for Matthew). If this is the case he might of heard of about Jesus from his brother before his coming to Christ Jesus. Like I mention before Matthew is known by two names Matthew and Levi. Which we saw in ([Mr 2:14](#)) His Job was before he was found by Christ Jesus was a Tax collector or publicans. Tax collectors was very hated at that time. To the average Jew they was called the worst of sinners. Because some of them was Jews . It was like them betraying their own race. Because They was working for the government which bond the Jew was in and also because they always charge more than they should. Why was that because that was the way they got paid by charging more. Luke records some of the Tax collectors coming to John the baptizer who knows if one of them was Matthew. The Tax collectors cared about their salvation as well. And surly John the Baptist knew the way . ([Lu 3:12-13](#)) Then came also publicans to be baptized, and said unto him, Master, what shall we do? And he said unto them, Exact no more than that which is appointed you. Matthew was from Galilee. If he had any wife and children the bible is not that clear on that but we know from Paul that some of the Apostles did have a wife.

Was Matthew one of them , we can only assume on that subject .

([1Co 9:5](#)) Have we not power to lead about a sister, a wife, as well as other apostles, and as the brethren of the Lord, and Cephas? {wife: or, woman}

What I have written so far I hope you could get into the mind of one who was a tax collector. He was maybe one hated by his own family .And one who hated himself.

Matthew might of known the teaching of John the Baptist either by being there or by other tax collectors who was their. He had a longing for his life of something better than just collecting taxes.

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Chapter 2 The Law and Matthew

Maybe he found life meaningless.

Their is no doubt he had a emptiness in his life wish nothing on earth could fill.

Not money , women, men , children, wine , drugs. A longing for the presence of almighty God. To know God. To be accepted in fellowship with him. A fellowship which was broken with the fall of Adam. He was tired of sin in his life.

You know Sin what you say, think ,and do that doesn't please God. He was tire of conscience stating their is no forgiveness for you. He knew that the Messiah was to come . But When and would he come for me.

It may of been possible that he knew the Torah (The Law) had studied it. Tried to live it but of no value.At the end everyone is a sinner. Even Solomon the wisest man said in

([Ec 7:20](#)) For there is not a just man upon earth, that doeth good, and sinneth not. What can I do how can I face God and the Messiah was no doubt in his mind .

Who or what can change my desire , not to love sin.You reader might of been asking yourself the same questions. Know this the Law is what brings us to Christ Jesus and making us helpless before God.So as a Teacher it directs us to the Saviour .([Ga 3:24](#)) Wherefore the law was our schoolmaster to bring us unto Christ, that we might be justified by faith. Who can change me ? Who or what can fill my emptiness? How Can I look to God or have a relationship with him? The Law can't do it. 613 commandments of does and don't can't cut it. You could try to read them and live up to them but the moment you fail just one you are under a divine curse .

[De 28:15](#) ¶ But it shall come to pass, if thou wilt not hearken unto the voice of the LORD thy God, to observe to do all his commandments and his statutes which I command thee this day; that all these curses shall come upon thee, and overtake thee:

[Da 9:11](#) Yea, all Israel have transgressed thy law, even by departing, that they might not obey thy voice; therefore the curse is poured upon us, and the oath that is written in the law of Moses the servant of God, because we have sinned against him.

[Ga 3:10](#) For as many as are of the works of the law are under the curse: for it is written, Cursed is every one that continueth not in all things which are written in the book of the law to do them.

([Jas 2:10-11](#)) For whosoever shall keep the whole law, and yet offend in one point, he is guilty of all. For he that said, Do not commit adultery, said also, Do not kill. Now if thou commit no adultery, yet if thou kill, thou art become a transgressor of the law. {he that: or, that law which}

Chapter 3 Christ Jesus meets Matthew

Now in this mind set we see Matthew . Now we can get to the story that is told to us in the gospel account.([Mt 9:9](#)) And as Jesus passed forth from thence, he saw a man, named Matthew, sitting at the receipt of custom: and he saith unto him, Follow me. And he arose, and followed him. Luke the doctor has one more bit of information to this account.

([Lu 5:27-28](#)) And after these things he went forth, and saw a publican, named Levi, sitting at the receipt of custom: and he said unto him, Follow me. And he left all, rose up, and followed him. Notice it states he didn't just rose up and fallow. But repentance of sin was done for he also left all . And the left all was first. His love for sin became a hate for it. He was no more the same Matthew . He had a true purpose and a relationship with the God of heaven which is found in the person of Jesus Christ. Matthew all was counted as nothing his job, his wealth, his friends and anything you could imagine. The Apostle Paul puts it this way :([Php 3:8](#)) Yea doubtless, and I count all things but loss for the excellency of the knowledge of Christ Jesus my Lord: for whom I have suffered the loss of all things, and do count them but dung, that I may win Christ, (KJV)

This very verse describes how Matthew felt after he left all to fallow Jesus Christ. Would you wish to be like Matthew ? Go to Jesus . Ask him to open your heart to the things of God. Ask him to turn your heart of stone to a heart of flesh. He promises in his word to do just that to the believer. ([Eze 36:25-27](#)) Then will I sprinkle clean water upon you, and ye shall be clean: from all your filthiness, and from all your idols, will I cleanse you. A new heart also will I give you, and a new spirit will I put within you: and I will take away the stony heart out of your flesh, and I will give you an heart of flesh. And I will put my spirit within you, and cause you to walk in my statutes, and ye shall keep my judgments, and do them. (KJV) What did Matthew do next

you might ask he took him to his friends so they could also be saved. ([Lu 5:29](#)) And Levi made him a great feast in his own house: and there was a great company of publicans and of others that sat down with them. (KJV)

Who was the others ? ([Mt 9:10](#)) And it came to pass, as Jesus sat at meat in the house, behold, many publicans and sinners came and sat down with him and his disciples. (KJV)

([Mr 2:15](#)) And it came to pass, that, as Jesus sat at meat in his house, many publicans and sinners sat also together with Jesus and his disciples: for there were many, and they followed him. (KJV) All we are told the others was sinners as Matthew and us . For this is where God meets us . ([Ro 5:6-8](#)) For when we were yet without strength, in due time Christ died for the ungodly. {in due time: or, according to the time} For scarcely for a righteous man will one die: yet peradventure for a good man some would even dare to die. But God commendeth his love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us. (KJV)